

In the Specification:

Please amend the specification by inclusion of the attached Sequence Listing, both in printed form and computer readable form.

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 are pending in the application. In response to the Office Action and its attached Notice to Comply with Requirements for Patent Applications Containing Nucleotide Sequence and/or Amino Acid Sequence Disclosures, Applicants submit an initial Sequence Listing in printed form and computer-readable form and the appropriate Statement under 37 C.F.R. 1.821-825. No new matter has been added.

The Examiner issued a restriction requirement, dividing the claims between Group I (claims 1-16) directed to polypeptides, nucleic acid molecules, antibodies, and compositions (diagnostic, vaccine, and pharmaceutical); and Group II (claim 17) directed to a method for manufacturing a medicament.

Without agreeing or disagreeing with the Examiner's analysis, in the interests of expediting prosecution, Applicants hereby elect Group I, comprising claims 1-16.

The Examiner also issued an election of species requirement, requiring election of one species of a protein comprising an amino acid sequence and a protein having 50% or greater sequence identity thereto (claims 1, 4-6), a nucleic acid molecule (claims 2-3, 8-13), an antibody

(claim 7), a vaccine or diagnostic composition (claim 15), and a pharmaceutical composition (claim 16). The Examiner recognized claim 14 as being generic ("A composition comprising a protein, a nucleic acid molecule, or an antibody according to any preceding claim.") The Examiner requires a further election of a single amino acid sequence or at most ten nucleotide sequences should Applicants elect one of these species.

Applicants hereby elect the species of a protein comprising an amino acid sequence and a protein having 50% or greater sequence identity thereto. Claims 1, 4-6, and 14 read on this elected species.

In response to the requirement that Applicants elect a single amino acid sequence, Applicants hereby elect the sequence for ORF 1-1, identified as SEQ ID 650, for examination.

Applicants reserve the right to consideration of additional species upon the allowance of a generic claim, and also reserve the right to file divisional applications to unelected groups and/or species.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request consideration and allowance of the pending claims. Early and favorable notification to that effect is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner have any

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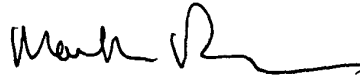
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comments, Applicants urge the Examiner to call the undersigned at the indicated phone number.

Please continue to direct all correspondence relating to this application to:

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Respectfully submitted,



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